

11/9/00 Crushed

A 39-year-old worker was killed while working on a piece of wood working equipment. The victim was employed as a sawyer for an office furniture manufacturer. He had worked for this employer for over two years.

The victim was doing routine (monthly) maintenance on a computer-operated panel saw without turning the saw off. He was underneath the cutting table, manually cleaning the track for the carriage for the motor and blade, when he apparently contacted the bar in front of the machine, and activated the carriage.

The victim's head was crushed between the motor on the carriage and one of the legs of the table. There were no witnesses, however, the machine was still running when employees arrived.

Questions to ask?

- Do you have an energy control program (Lockout/Tag out)?
- Do you require its' use when performing maintenance on equipment?
- Are all affected and authorized workers trained in the energy control program?
See Part A-4 Safety Procedures, WAC 296-24-110 for specific requirements.
- Do you have training programs to improve the skill and competency of employees in the field of safety and health? See WAC 296-24-020.